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COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION
OF NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY
Sixth session
3-14 February 1992
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy:

   (a) Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and the activities of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of new and renewable sources of energy;

   (b) Recommendation of policy guidelines for different organs, organizations and bodies within the United Nations system with regard to new and renewable sources of energy on the basis of the Nairobi Programme of Action;

   (c) Formulation and recommendations of action-oriented plans and programmes for carrying out the Nairobi Programme of Action in accordance with the priorities identified therein;

   (d) Inter-agency coordination for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action;

   (e) Contribution to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

4. Promotion of the mobilization of financial resources required in the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action:

   (a) Existing channels for funding new and renewable sources of energy;

   (b) Progress achieved in mobilizing financial resources through consultative meetings.

5. Substantive themes selected for detailed consideration:

   (a) Contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to specific multi-purpose medium- to large-scale applications;

   (b) Promotion of rapid and effective transfer of technology in the field of new and renewable sources of energy to developing countries, including the role of joint ventures in the framework of North-South and South-South cooperation, in fulfilment of the goals and objectives of the Nairobi Programme of Action, with a view to taking due account of the potential contribution of those sources to sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries.

6. Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

7. Medium-term planning in the field of development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy

8. Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Committee.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with established practice, the Committee may wish to elect a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

By resolution 37/250, the General Assembly decided that the Committee should meet once every two years in even-numbered years. The provisional agenda was approved by the Committee at its fifth session.

3. Implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy:

(a) Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and the activities of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of new and renewable sources of energy

(b) Recommendation of policy guidelines for different organs, organizations and bodies within the United Nations system with regard to new and renewable sources of energy on the basis of the Nairobi Programme of Action

(c) Formulation and recommendations of action-oriented plans and programmes for carrying out the Nairobi Programme of Action in accordance with the priorities identified therein

(d) Inter-agency coordination for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action

(e) Contribution to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

In the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Committee at its fifth session (A/45/36, sect. VII), the Committee re-emphasised the importance of the full implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, with a view to contributing to meet the energy needs of developing and developed countries. The Committee stressed that the implementation of the Programme of Action called for action by all members of the international community, and in that regard the United Nations system had a vital role to play. It also stressed that international cooperation was indispensable in assisting and supporting developing countries' efforts aimed at promoting the development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy, in accordance with their national plans and priorities.

To monitor the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and to facilitate the formulation and recommendations of future activities, the Committee, in resolution 1 (V), requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report for consideration by the Committee at its sixth session on the activities carried out by the entities within the United Nations system in the field of new and renewable sources of energy.

The General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, in resolution 45/208, emphasized the need for the development of new and renewable sources of energy in accordance with the fundamental objectives of the Nairobi Programme of Action, took note of the report of the Committee on its fifth session and endorsed the resolutions and decisions contained therein. The Assembly reaffirmed the importance and validity of the principles and objectives of the Nairobi Programme of Action and the urgent need to promote a higher degree of independent and environmentally sustainable new and renewable sources of

energy for all countries. The Assembly recommended that the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system assist the developing countries, upon request and within the context of their national policies, in identifying specific and viable projects in the area of their most pressing needs and in strengthening their national frameworks for new and renewable sources of energy and, to that end, prepare a set of updated or new proposals, within the framework of the Nairobi Programme of Action, for the consideration of the Committee at its sixth session.

Also in resolution 45/208, the General Assembly reaffirmed the importance of increasing inter-agency cooperation within the United Nations system, as well as coordination of development activities for new and renewable sources of energy at all levels.

The Committee, in resolution 1 (V), having recalled General Assembly resolution 44/228 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, requested the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive and analytical study to be considered by the Committee at its sixth session, with a view to providing a significant contribution to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, including recommendations for action to promote the rapid and effective transfer of technology in the field of new and renewable sources of energy to developing countries.

The Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the activities carried out by the entities within the United Nations system in the field of new and renewable sources of energy and the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Solar energy: a strategy in support of environment and development". Inter-agency coordination in the field of new and renewable sources of energy will be included in the report of the Secretary-General on progress achieved in the mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and inter-agency coordination in the field of new and renewable sources of energy.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities carried out by the entities within the United Nations system in the field of new and renewable sources of energy (A/AC.218/1992/6)

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Solar energy: a strategy in support of environment and development" (A/AC.218/1992/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress achieved in the mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and inter-agency coordination in the field of new and renewable sources of energy (A/AC.218/1992/7)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress achieved in the follow-up of substantive themes selected by the Committee at its fourth and fifth sessions (A/AC.218/1992/8)

4. Promotion of the mobilization of financial resources required in the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action:

(a) Existing channels for funding new and renewable sources of energy

(b) Progress achieved in mobilizing financial resources through consultative meetings

In the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Committee at its fifth session, the Committee noted with concern that no major developments regarding the mobilization of financial resources had taken place since the fourth session of the Committee. In particular, no consultative meetings had been organized, and mechanisms for financing activities in the field of new and renewable sources of energy, such as the UNDP Energy Account, had lost their capabilities as a result of the lack of resources. The Committee stressed that the mobilization of additional and adequate financial resources was essential for the effective implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action. In that regard, the Committee called for the mobilization of additional resources through the existing financial mechanisms and organizations within the United Nations system for the development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy. The Secretary-General was requested to inform the Committee at its sixth session of progress made in that regard.

At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 45/208, reiterated the need to mobilize substantial adequate flows of financial resources commensurate with the needs of developing countries in the field of new and renewable sources of energy, while emphasizing the need to utilize existing channels fully, including the United Nations Trust Fund for New and Renewable Sources of Energy, and urged donor countries to continue voluntary contributions to that Fund.

The Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved in the mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and inter-agency coordination in the field of new and renewable sources of energy.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved in the mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and inter-agency coordination in the field of new and renewable sources of energy (A/AC.218/1992/7)

5. Substantive themes selected for detailed consideration

(a) Contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to specific multi-purpose medium- to large-scale applications

(b) Promotion of rapid and effective transfer of technology in the field of new and renewable sources of energy to developing countries, including the role of joint ventures in the framework of North-South and South-South cooperation, in the fulfilment of the goals and objectives of the Nairobi Programme of Action, with a view to taking due account of the potential contribution of those sources to sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries

In resolution 1 (V), the Committee, while recalling General Assembly resolution 44/228 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, decided to include in the provisional agenda for its sixth session, for detailed consideration, the following themes:

(a) Contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to specific multi-purpose medium- to large-scale applications;

(b) Promotion of rapid and effective transfer of technology in the field of new and renewable sources of energy to developing countries, including the role of joint ventures in the framework of North-South and South-South cooperation, in fulfilment of the goals and objectives of the Nairobi Programme of Action, with a view to taking due account of the potential contribution of those sources to sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries.

The Committee also invited interested States to inform the Committee at its sixth session of their ongoing practical and scientific activities and/or evaluations with regard to the selected substantive themes. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to prepare an analytical report for consideration by the Committee at its sixth session based on an in-depth study of the current stage of achievements in States regarding the selected themes, and also requested the Secretary-General to provide a report on the activities of the United Nations system in that regard in order to facilitate a more effective exchange of information and experience regarding the development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy.

The Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to specific multi-purpose medium- to large-scale applications. The Committee will also have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations system in the contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to transfer of technology.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to specific multi-purpose medium- to large-scale applications (A/AC.218/1992/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations system in the contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to transfer of technology (A/AC.218/1992/4)

6. Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy

In resolution 2 (V), the Committee, while recalling the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, noted that the year 1991 coincided with the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Programme of Action. The Committee stressed the importance of that event as a useful opportunity to take stock of the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action, with a view to revitalizing it and enhancing the actions of the Committee in that respect. It decided to inscribe the item entitled "Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy" in the agenda of its sixth session. It also decided to convene a meeting of an intergovernmental group of experts to assess and review the process of the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and to make concrete recommendations on all aspects of its implementation, including institutional aspects, with a view to assisting the Committee at its sixth session in the consideration of the above item and to take measures designed to speed up the implementation of the concerted action envisaged in the Nairobi Programme of Action.

The meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on New and Renewable Sources of Energy was held at New York from 26 to 30 August 1991. It was attended by representatives of 14 countries and of the entities of the United Nations system and specially invited experts. The Committee will have before it the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

Documentation

Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (A/AC.218/1992/9)

7. Medium-term planning in the field of development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy

By its resolution 45/253, the General Assembly adopted the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and reaffirmed that the plan was the

principal policy directive of the United Nations and should serve as a framework for the formulation of the biennial programme budgets. The plan includes a programme on energy, with a subprogramme on furthering the development and use of new and renewable sources of energy (A/45/6/Rev.1, programme 20, subprogramme 3).

In accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, the Committee will have before it, for its consideration and recommendations, proposals to revise this subprogramme on new and renewable sources of energy. The attention of the members of the Committee is drawn to the relevant provisions of the programme planning regulations and rules and General Assembly resolution 45/253 concerning, inter alia, the importance for the Committee to review appropriately the proposed revisions and to recommend the priority to be set for the subprogramme.

Documentation

Proposed revisions to the programme on energy, including new and renewable sources of energy, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

8. Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Committee

The attention of the Committee is drawn to General Assembly resolutions 33/56, 34/50 and 36/117 A and decision 37/445 concerning the control and limitation of documentation. In decision 37/445, the Assembly endorsed the recommendation contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/50 that the documentation and programme of work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council and the Assembly should be streamlined, and that the Council and the Assembly should continue to review the provisional agenda for their subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation.

The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda for the seventh session and the documents to be submitted under each item.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Committee

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixth session

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/250, the Committee submits its reports and recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to General Assembly resolution 37/14 C, in which the Assembly reiterated chat subsidiary organs should strive to keep their reports within the desirable limit of 32 pages, and requested all subsidiary organs whose reports exceeded that limit to submit to the Committee on Conferences, prior to its next session, reasons for non-compliance.